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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/610,580	07/05/2000	Shamoun Murtza	81866.0028	4751

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EXAMINER

LAFORGIA, CHRISTIAN A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2155

DATE MAILED: 06/11/2003

7

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

RD

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/610,580

Applicant(s)

MURTZA ET AL.

Examiner

Christian La Forgia

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 March 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 05 July 2000 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1 through 5 are presented for examination.

Drawings

2. The drawings are objected to because certain parts of Figures 2 and 3 are missing numbers. A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.
3. The Patent and Trademark Office no longer makes drawing changes. See 1017 O.G. 4. It is applicant's responsibility to ensure that the drawings are corrected. Corrections must be made in accordance with the instructions below.

INFORMATION ON HOW TO EFFECT DRAWING CHANGES

1. **Correction of Informalities -- 37 CFR 1.85**

New corrected drawings must be filed with the changes incorporated therein. Identifying indicia, if provided, should include the title of the invention, inventor's name, and application number, or docket number (if any) if an application number has not been assigned to the application. If this information is provided, it must be placed on the front of each sheet and centered within the top margin. If corrected drawings are required in a Notice of Allowability (PTOL-37), the new drawings **MUST** be filed within the **THREE MONTH** shortened statutory period set for reply in the "Notice of Allowability." Extensions of time may NOT be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 for filing the corrected drawings after the mailing of a Notice of Allowability. The drawings should be filed as a separate paper with a transmittal letter addressed to the Official Draftsperson.

2. **Corrections other than Informalities Noted by Draftsperson on form PTO-948.**

All changes to the drawings, other than informalities noted by the Draftsperson, **MUST** be made in the same manner as above except that, normally, a highlighted (preferably red ink) sketch of the changes to be incorporated into the new drawings **MUST** be approved by the examiner before the application will be allowed. No changes will be permitted to be made, other than correction of informalities, unless the examiner has approved the proposed changes.

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Timing of Corrections

Applicant is required to submit acceptable corrected drawings within the time period set in the Office action. See 37 CFR 1.185(a). Failure to take corrective action within the set (or extended) period will result in **ABANDONMENT** of the application.

Specification

4. The use of the trademarks Cisco, Apache, and Oracle has been noted in this application.

It should be capitalized wherever it appears and be accompanied by the generic terminology.

5. Although the use of trademarks is permissible in patent applications, the proprietary nature of the marks should be respected and every effort made to prevent their use in any manner which might adversely affect their validity as trademarks.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. Claims 1, 3, and 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over United States Patent No. 6,298,341 to Mann et al, (hereinafter Mann) in lieu of obviousness.

8. As per claim 1, Mann teaches a URL processing system, comprising:

9. a first web server adapted to receive a request for a first URL and return a message associated with the first URL request (Abstract; Figures 1 [block 108], 2, 3a [blocks S3-2, S3-3], 3b [blocks S3-8], 3c [block S3-13], 3d [block S3-15], 4 [blocks S4-2, S403], 5a, 5b, 5c, 5d;

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column 1, lines 42-52; column 3, lines 41-59; column 4, lines 29-38; column 6, line 62 to column 7, line 23);

10. a file server associated with and accessible by the first web server (Figures 1 [blocks 110, 112], 3b [block S3-9], 3c [block S3-11]; column 5, lines 33-37; column 5, line 66 to column 6, line 12),

the file server adapted to store a plurality of files corresponding to a plurality of URLs (Figures 1 [blocks 110, 112], 3b [block S3-9], 3c [block S3-11]; column 5, lines 33-37; column 5, line 66 to column 6, line 12),

the plurality of URLs associated with a plurality of IP addresses (Figures 1 [blocks 110, 112], 3b [block S3-9], 3c [block S3-11]; column 5, lines 33-37; column 5, line 66 to column 6, line 12),

a first file associated with the first URL accessed contains a first IP address of a first destination server (Figures 3b [block S3-8, S3-9]),

11. It is inherently understood by those of ordinary skill in the art that domain name servers contain files linking URLs (or domain names) to IP addresses. For further clarification

Newton's Telecom Dictionary, by Harry Newton, defines a *domain name server* as a computer on the Internet which contains the programs and files which make up a domain's name database.

Using a name server is much like placing a call to a 800/888 voice telephone number. The 800/888 number requires a "dip" into a database (on the DNS) in order to translate the name (e.g. harry@ctexpo.com) into a telephone number (IP address), which you then use to establish connection with the person (host computer). In other words, the DNS translates the logical alphanumeric address into a logical IP address associated with an application server (or perhaps,

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a logical partition of a server), which is connected to the Internet. The telephone network (Internet) address by telephone number (IP address), not really by the person's (domain's) name. Mann does not teach the first web server returning the first IP address as part of the message in response to the first URL request, but it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include the IP address in the response message of Mann. One would be motivated to include the IP address in the return message of Mann because it would serve as evidence that the URL requested does not exist. For instance, if there were a problem resolving the requested URL, by inputting the IP address one would be able to see that the requested URL was taken if it was not coming up via typing into a web browser.

12. Mann does not teach a second web server associated with the file server,

13. the second web server adapted to receive a request to alter the first IP address within the first file to modify the association between the first URL and the first IP address of the first destination server. However, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include a second web server with the system of Mann. Mann teaches toward the web server being adapted to receive a request to alter the first IP address within the first file to modify the association between the first URL and the first IP address of the first destination in column 7, lines 56 to 65. One would be motivated to add an additional server with these capabilities to the system of Mann because it would provide a system where users could update or change the IP address of a web server and provide that update to a DNS server, therefore preventing web page downtime and smooth transitions between various customers.

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14. Regarding claim 3, Mann teaches wherein the file server stores the plurality of files in a directory format with the names of the files comprising URL data associated with the URLs associated with the IP addresses (Figures 1 [blocks 110, 112], 2 [block 110], 3b [block S3-9], 3c [block S3-11]; column 3, lines 45-55; column 5, lines 33-37; column 5, line 66 to column 6, line 12). It is inherent to DNS servers to store the plurality of files in a directory format comprising the URLs associated with the IP address. For further clarification **Newton's Telecom Dictionary**, by Harry Newton, defines a *domain name server* as a computer on the Internet which contains the programs and files which make up a domain's name database. Using a name server is much like placing a call to a 800/888 voice telephone number. The 800/888 number requires a "dip" into a database (on the DNS) in order to translate the name (e.g. harry@ctexpo.com) into a telephone number (IP address), which you then use to establish connection with the person (host computer). In other words, the DNS translates the logical alphanumeric address into a logical IP address associated with an application server (or perhaps, a logical partition of a server), which is connected to the Internet. The telephone network (Internet) address by telephone number (IP address), not really by the person's (domain's) name.

15. With regards to claim 4, Mann teaches wherein the URL data comprises domain names and the directory organizes the plurality of files according to alphabetic ordering of the domain names (Figures 1 [blocks 110, 112], 2 [block 110], 3b [block S3-9], 3c [block S3-11]; column 3, lines 45-55; column 5, lines 33-37; column 5, line 66 to column 6, line 12). Although Mann does not explicitly cite organizing the plurality of files in alphabetical order, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to do so. One would be motivated to organize the

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domain's in alphabetical order primarily for aesthetic purposes, see *In re Seid*, 161 F.2d 229, 231, 73 USPQ 431, 433 (CCPA 1947).

16. Claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mann in lieu of obviousness as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of United States Patent No. 6,195,691 to Brown, (hereinafter Brown).

17. Regarding claim 2, Mann does not teach wherein a domain name server within a domain name system associates the first URL with a second IP address for the first web server.

18. Brown teaches wherein a domain name server within a domain name system associates the first URL with a second IP address for the first web server (Figure 1 [block 200], 3; column 4, line 55 to column 5, line 2). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include the association of the first URL with a second IP address. One would be motivated to perform such an association for redundancy and load balancing purposes.

19. Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mann in lieu of obviousness as applied to claim 3 above, and further in view of United States Patent No. 6,112,176 to Hunt et al., (hereinafter Hunt).

20. With regards to claim 5, Mann does not teach wherein the plurality of files are stored in a common file space of an array of hard disks.

21. Hunt teaches wherein the plurality of files are stored in a common file space of an array of hard disks (Figures 1, 3 [block 36], 4, 5, 6; column 7, line 45-67). It would have been obvious

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to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include the array of hard disks of Hunt with the system of Mann. One would be motivated to provide the system of Mann with an array of hard drives because Mann stores the URL for each query performed via the web page, ergo utilizing a lot of hard drive space. The hard drive array of Hunt would be ideal for the Mann system, as Hunt provides a method for retrieving information quickly, which would be beneficial to the querying of the Mann system.

Conclusion

22. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

23. The following patents are cited to further show the state of the art with respect to registering domain names, such as:

United States Patent No. 6,442,602 to Choudhry, which is cited to show a system and method for dynamic creation and management of virtual sub domains.

United States Patent No. 5,905,862 to Hoekstra, which is cited to show an automatic web site registration system.

United States Patent No. 6,560,634 to Broadhurst, which is cited to show a method for determining the availability of a domain name.

United States Patent No. 6,449,657 to Stanbach, Jr. et al., which is cited to show an Internet hosting system.

United States Patent No. 6,412,014 to Ryan, which is cited to show an Internet directory based on domain names.

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United States Patent No. 6,427,170 to Sitaraman et al., which is cited to show an IP address management system.

United States Patent No. 6,104,711 to Voit, which is cited to show an enhanced Internet domain name server.

United States Patent No. 6,125,395 to Rosenberg et al., which is cited to show a method for identifying collections of web sites with their domain names.

United States Patent No. 6,161,124 to Takagawa et al., which is cited to show a method and system for registering a domain name.


24. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Christian La Forgia whose telephone number is (703) 305-7704. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday thru Thursday 7-5.

25. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ayaz Sheikh can be reached on (703) 305-9648. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 746-7240 for regular communications and (703) 746-7239 for After Final communications.

26. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

Christian LaForgia
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2155

clf
June 7, 2003


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